

"lobby" here and peace prevails. The railroads will accept some restrictions without opposition so long as there is no danger of the rate-making power being taken out of their hands.

For like reasons the leaders of the majority in both senate and house have given their assent to the program, and legislation substantially upon the lines laid down in this dispatch is expected to go through and become a law at this session.

The radical measure of Senator Cummins, backed by the other progressives, taking the ratemaking power out of the hands of the railroads will not be favored by the administration and can not be passed through congress unless the radicals can make a combination with the democrats and overthrow the regulars.

#### Anti-Trust Legislation

Although the president and his advisers are eager to have some legislation that will clear up the doubt and annoyance which now exist through uncertainty as to the precise application of the Sherman anti-trust law, it is considered doubtful, both by the administration and the leaders in congress, if this question can be taken up at the present session of congress.

The Standard Oil and American Tobacco cases must be disposed of by the supreme court before the problem can be intelligently approached. The Standard Oil case has not yet been set for hearing. The tobacco trust case is to be argued January 3.

In view of the importance of these cases the administration has been anxious to have a full bench. There is now one vacancy, and Justice Moody is still quite ill, unable to sit in court.

A decision of these cases in time to permit the president to formulate recommendations and for congress to act upon them is not expected.

#### Postal Savings Banks

I am able to make the authoritative statement that some sort of a postal saving bill is likely to be

passed at this session. The facts are:

1. President Taft, in view of the party platform and his own campaign pledges, and also his sincere belief in the proposed system, recommended enactment of the law and stands by the recommendation.

2. He did this and is doing it against the wishes of Senator Aldrich.

3. Senator Aldrich believes the postal savings plan should wait till it can be merged in the general banking and currency legislation, which is expected to be had in this administration.

4. But he is willing to sacrifice his views in part to help the administration and the party, since there is discontent in the west and something must be done to allay it.

5. Senator Aldrich has told Senator Carter, in charge of the bill, that he will not stand in the way of postal savings legislation, provided:

(a) Agreement can be reached upon details.

(b) Execution of the law shall be put in the treasury department or a bureau and not in the hands of the postoffice department.

(c) Postal savings fund shall be deposited in the treasury or be invested in government bonds and not be redeposited in the national banks of the neighborhood as proposed in the pending measure.

Whether or not such a postal savings law as that which Senator Aldrich is willing to let pass will be satisfactory to the advocates of the postal savings system remains to be seen. Some of the friends of the plan fear Senator Aldrich is trying to so load the measure that it will not be acceptable even to those who have always favored it.

WALTER WELLMAN.

Discovery of coal beneath the chalk cliffs of Dover has given rise to the hope that it may be found in workable quantities elsewhere in the south of England.—Ex.

Fifty years ago there were 23,000 distilleries in Sweden. This number has now been reduced to 132.—Ex.

## Washington News

In a speech delivered at New Haven, Conn., President Taft reiterated his views in favor of a civil pension list, saying that the country may yet have to come to it.

Senator Burkett of Nebraska has introduced a bill to prohibit sending, by interstate wires, news from race meetings when the same is to be used by pool rooms or other gambling purposes.

The one hundred and tenth birthday of George Washington was celebrated by the Masons and a memorial wreath was placed on the tomb at Mount Vernon.

An Associated Press dispatch which is believed to have been inspired follows: "One of the projects for the solution of the Nicaraguan situation which has been strongly urged upon the state department is the establishment of a protectorate, either singly by the United States or jointly with Mexico. This may be regarded as necessary in the event that the insurgents fail to displace Zelaya by their own efforts, and may even follow an insurgent triumph which would leave the country without responsible leaders. It is stated precedent for such action could be found in the case of Santo Domingo and Cuba. In the first instance large sums of money were owing to American citizens, which could not be collected from the Domingo government (then in a state of chaos) by diplomatic means. In the case of Nicaragua the government has defaulted in the payment of the agreed allotments in the Emery claim. In the case of Cuba a state of disorder that threatened the safety of the lives and property of Americans and other foreigners existed that was the warrant for intervention that a forward movement will be adopted by this government in the near future, perhaps as soon as a sufficient number of marines have gathered off the Nicaraguan coast. Today's news from Managua, indicating the imminence of rioting beyond the control of the local government forces to suppress, might serve as the basis of the landing of the marines and their dispatch to Managua if necessary to maintain order, just as was done on the Isthmus of Panama a few years ago. It is not part of the plan to maintain such forces in Nicaragua permanently, but only long enough to permit of a fair and free general election, and the establishment of a president who will be pledged to observe the constitutional obligations.

General W. W. Dudley of Indiana, formerly commissioner of pensions, died at the national capital.

The senate committee on judiciary has unanimously reported favorably to the nomination of Judge Horace H. Lurton to be a justice of the United States supreme court.

The publication of the United States government's plan towards Nicaragua evidently had its effect for within a few days after that publication Zelaya resigned as president of Nicaragua. He has been president for sixteen years. A special election will be held to choose his successor and this government has made it plain that it will "oppose any follower of Zelaya for the presidency."

When a house resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of five to make an investigation to

ascertain what useless papers were stored in the document rooms of the house was reported to the house, Representative Clark of Missouri, the minority leader, demanded to know when action was to be taken on important resolutions. "It seems to be easy enough," criticised Mr. Clark, "to get a resolution reported for the disposal of the worthless documents, but when an effort is made to get action on the resolutions for an investigation of the sugar trust frauds to see how much money has been stolen from the government, and who is mixed up in it and for an inquiry into the general land office some kind of smothering process goes on." The worthless paper resolutions were adopted. The District of Columbia appropriation bill was taken up for consideration of the house soon after that body convened today. It was agreed that general debate on the measure should be limited to one hour and a half. The senate today agreed to the house resolution providing for the adjournment of congress from December 22 to January 4, for the Christmas holidays.

President Taft attended the funeral of the wife of his brother in Connecticut.

Representative Mann of Illinois and Fitzgerald of New York attacked Mr. Tweedale, auditor of the District of Columbia, for criticising members of congress. Fitzgerald said that ex-President Roosevelt had set the bad example.

Representative Mann of Illinois has introduced a bill to suppress the white slave traffic.

Representative Taylor of Colorado has introduced a bill to convey to the state of Colorado title to one million acres of public land. This land is to be sold at \$5 per acre in 160 acre lots and the proceeds are to be used in maintaining the public highways of the state.

Representative Hardy of Texas introduced a resolution demanding investigation of the charge that members of congress and newspapers had been subsidized in behalf of the ship subsidy.

The United States ship, Buffalo, with 700 marines on board left Panama for Corinto.

Zelaya, president of Nicaragua, cabled to President Taft that in order to show his good faith he had resigned the presidency and would leave Nicaragua.

Senators Cummins and Dolliver are not to have a hand to any extent in appointments in the state of Iowa.

Mrs. Horace B. Taft, wife of the brother of the president, is dead. Her home was at Watertown, Conn.

Twelve persons were killed in a wreck on the Southern Railway ten miles north of Greensboro, N. C.

Rev. D. C. Hughes, father of the governor of New York, died at the executive mansion in Auburn. He was 77 years of age.

The Brazilian government is trying to stimulate the production of silk in that country by offering bounties to producers of cocoons and to persons establishing silk factories under certain conditions.—Ex.

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